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SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MONTHLY SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(Month of January, 1986)

The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas in the U.S. and U.S. waters during January declined by sixteen from the December, 1985 total. The land crew total decreased by sixteen and the marine crew total remained stable (December marine total was revised to thirty-nine crews). Additional working crews were unable to meet the survey requirement of working half the month due to weather conditions.

The January total (310) represents a decrease of 3% from last month, a 29% decrease from January, 1985, a 35% decrease from January, 1984, a 32% decrease from January, 1983, a 55% decrease from January, 1982, a 48% decrease from January, 1981, and a decrease of 34% from the same month in 1980.

During January, nine contractors were operating fourteen of the 240 land crews and three of the thirty-four vessels on a speculative basis.

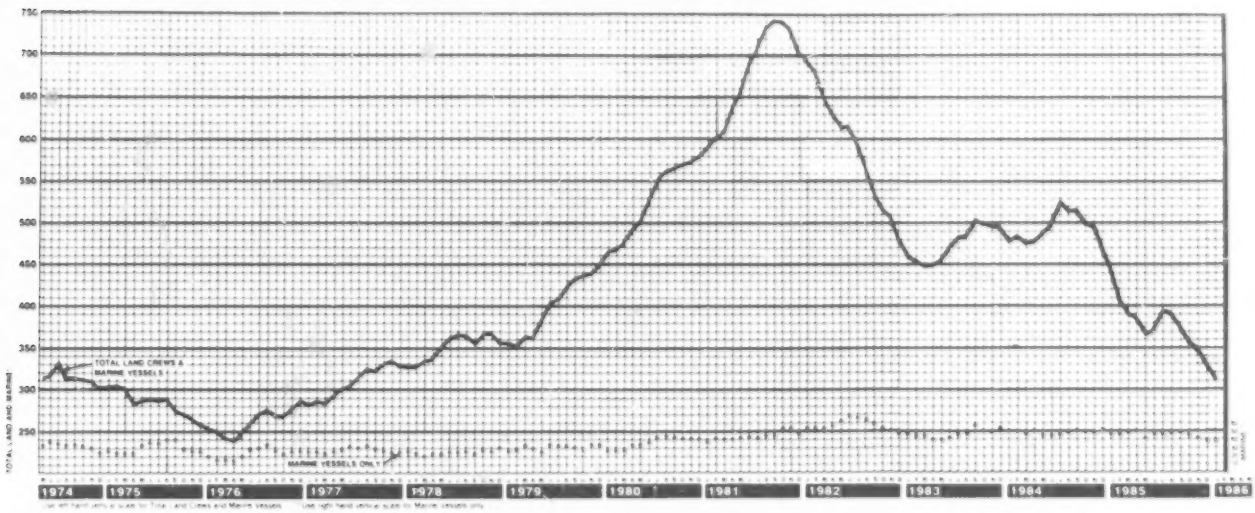
TOTAL LAND & MARINE CREWS:	This Month	Last Month	Jan.'85	Jan.'84	Jan.'83	Jan.'82	Jan.'81	Jan.'80
	310	326*	439	477	456	695	591	468

	LAND CREWS								MARINE VESSELS							
	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Jan. 1985	Jan. 1984	Jan. 1983	Jan. 1982	Jan. 1981	Jan. 1980	This Mo.	Last Mo.	Jan. 1985	Jan. 1984	Jan. 1983	Jan. 1982	Jan. 1981	Jan. 1980
64 Contr's:	240	255	358	390	365	599	513	400	34	33*	39	42	42	46	32	24
8 Oil Co's:	31	32	35	37	42	43	40	39	5	6	7	8	7	7	6	5
1 Gov't.:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	271	287	393	427	407	642	553	439	39	39*	46	50	49	53	38	29

*Revised total

SEISMIC CREW COUNT

(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



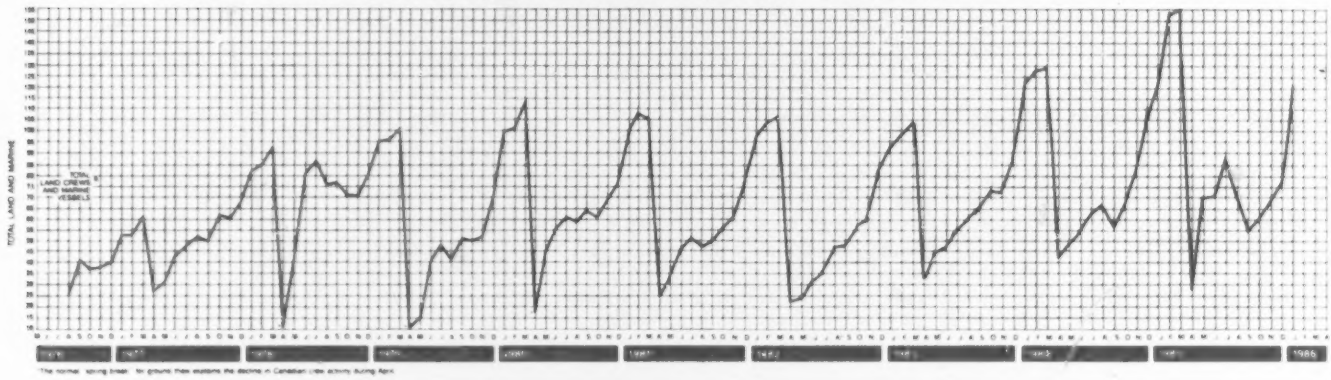
*Results of SEG's Seismic Crew Count of land and marine vessels engaged in exploration for oil and gas in the USA and USA waters, including Alaska, for the month indicated. These figures are compiled from data reported by oil companies operating company-owned seismic exploration crews and vessels and by contract seismic exploration companies. Special significance is attached to seismic crew activity since it is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT

JANUARY, 1986 (December, 1985 figures in parentheses)

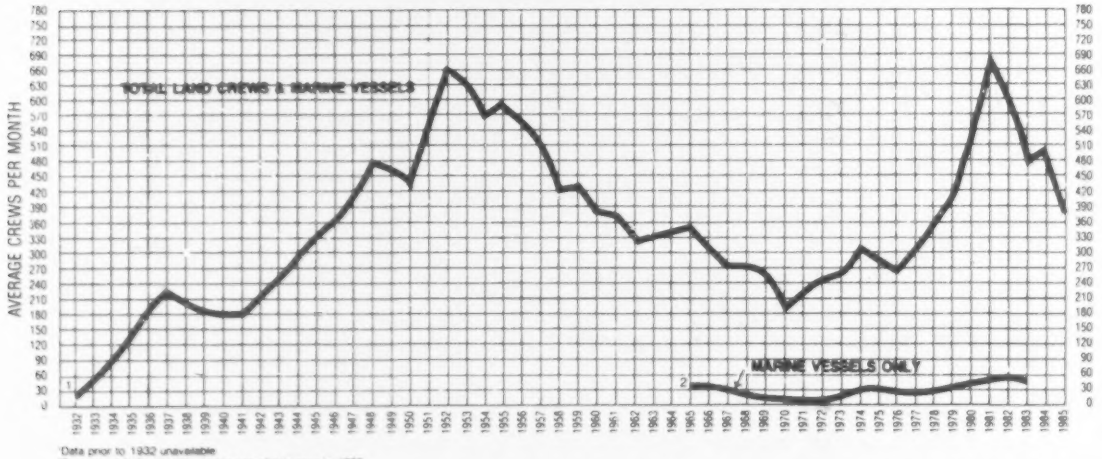
	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
31 Contractors:	118 (73)	2 (2)
2 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	0 (0)
Totals:	121 (76)	2 (2)

CANADIAN SEISMIC CREW COUNT
(The leading indicator of oil and gas exploration activity.)



SEG's monthly USA Seismic Crew survey was organized in 1974 at the request of the United States' Federal Energy Administration. The report is currently submitted to the U.S. Department of Energy. Both the U.S. and the international surveys are financed in part by a grant from the International Association of Geophysical Contractors.

HISTORY OF SEISMIC EXPLORATION IN THE UNITED STATES
(Seismic crews searching for oil & gas.)



[1]Data prior to 1932 unavailable.
[2]Separate data for marine vessels unavailable prior to 1965.